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AFTER FINAL PROCEDURE - PLEASE EXPEDITE HANDLING

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: UEMURA=5

In re Application of:

UEMURA et al.

Appln. No.: 09/856,319

Date Filed: May 21, 2001

For: NOVEL SERINE PROTEASE

BSSP5

Art Unit: 1636

Washington, D. M. Sullivan

Confirmation No. 6685

July 29, 2004

BSSP5

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop AF Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1803 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 9, 2004, please amend as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.